

Technology in Rural Transportation



A recent study documented more than eighty proven, cost-effective, “low-tech” solutions to rural transportation needs, most developed or implemented by local transportation professionals. One of these solutions is outlined below:

Learn all about the simple solutions on the Internet at
<http://inform.enterprise.prog.org>

The simple solutions report is available from
Hau To at (503) 892-2533, or email: to@crc-corp.com

Sign Inventory

Overall goal:	To maintain a computerized database of the city’s signs. This allows the city to track the maintenance and lifetime of the signs, predict which signs will need replacements, and make cost projections.
Technical approach:	A list of all signs, along with information such as location, age, and cost is kept in a spreadsheet.
Current status:	The system is fully operational.
Location / geographic scope:	The sign inventory has been implemented in the city of Bryan, Texas, which has a population of 55,000. It is believed that the solution could be transferable to any similar sized municipality.
Agencies involved:	The City of Bryan, Texas.
Cost information:	Precise cost details are not available. This system requires the use of a spreadsheet and a staff person to maintain it.
Key contacts:	J.W. Chism, Texas A&M. (409) 845-4457
Have goals been achieved?	Yes.
Solution timeline:	This system is in operation. No plans exist at present to implement the system elsewhere.

